

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Specific activation of the Raf-1/MEK/p42/44MAPK kinase
5 cascade in HepG2 cells, independent of other "upstream" factors or
cell growth regulation, leads to induction of LDL receptor
transcription. The degree of p42/44MAPK activation determines the
extent of LDL receptor induction. The present findings underscore
the important and central role of the MAPK pathway in regulating
10 low density lipoprotein receptor expression and may be of
considerable potential significance for the development of new signal
transduction-based approaches for the treatment of
hypercholesterolemia.